

## **GOVERNOR GRANHOLM'S PLAN TO GROW OUR ECONOMY, SECURE OUR FUTURE:** **OVERALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR MICHIGAN**

### **GOVERNOR GRANHOLM HAS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CREATE JOBS AND BOOST MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY**

She will "go anywhere and do anything" to create, retain, and grow jobs in Michigan. And, she is fighting hard to protect our families and educate our children. Governor Granholm puts Michigan first.

#### **GROWING THE ECONOMY**

The Governor is going anywhere and doing anything to create jobs for Michigan workers, and direct action by her administration is convincing major corporations to create jobs and expand in Michigan. Keebler relocated its headquarters from Illinois to Battle Creek. Toyota is putting 400 people to work in York Township at its new Technical Center. When manufacturing jobs left Greenville for Mexico, Governor Granholm stepped in and helped convince United Solar Ovonic to open a new manufacturing facility there. The Governor has met face to face with businesses from across the country and around the world – and her leadership is paying off. Her mission to Japan has already attracted 630 new jobs and \$116 million in new investment from 10 Japanese companies. But the Governor knows we have a lot more to do to create good paying jobs so our kids can stay in Michigan and work in Michigan. That's why she has a comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan, which includes a new, \$2 billion 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs for Michigan Fund that will diversify our economy and create thousands of jobs. From cutting taxes for businesses to matching out-of-work citizens with jobs that exist right now, Granholm is working hard every day to turn our economy around.

#### **PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND OUR CHILDREN**

Granholm knows that Michigan must ensure the health and safety of our families and our children to maintain our excellent quality of life. That's why in just three years, her administration has made it possible for more than 292,000 uninsured or under-insured citizens to receive affordable prescription drug coverage and health care coverage; and they've created the MiRx drug discount program that's helping 35,000 Michiganders purchase prescriptions. To protect our children, she's gone after sex and violence in video games. Our neighborhoods are also safer after her administration put more than 1,400 dangerous parole violators and more than 800 sex offenders back behind bars.

#### **EDUCATING OUR KIDS**

Governor Granholm knows the best path to a bright economic future is a high-quality education. Our children deserve to reach their full potential in a safe environment with the tools they need to succeed. That's why the Governor created Project Great Start to increase access to quality child care in Michigan communities and to give parents the tools they need to be their child's first and most important teacher. The Governor is also working to create higher standards in Michigan's high schools so that all students are prepared for success in college and in life. She is fighting to make Michigan the first state in the nation to make college or vocational training accessible and affordable for every child in the state. And, despite eliminating almost \$4 billion in budget shortfalls – more than any other governor before her – Governor Granholm's 2006 budget increased funding for Michigan's K-12 schools to record levels, while asking schools to do more to help kids learn.

## **Granholt Administration Accomplishments for Michigan's Hispanic American Community**

Governor Granholt is committed to ensuring that every person in Michigan has the opportunity to enjoy a great life – including Michigan's Hispanic American community. Since taking office, Governor Granholt and her administration have:

- **Appointed a Cabinet that Reflects 'One Michigan.'** Governor Granholt appointed what is believed to be the most diverse cabinet in the history of the state. After receiving thousands of applications from women and men around Michigan and the country, the Governor selected a group that exemplifies the core values of her administration and a cross-section of this great state.
- **Supported Affirmative Action.** Governor Granholt firmly believes that every Michigan citizen deserves a fair chance to succeed, and stands with educators and clergy, business and labor, elected officials, and Michigan citizens in opposing the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative (MCRI).
- **Cabinet and Appointments as Diverse as Michigan.** Governor Granholt's cabinet and top appointments are almost identical to the state's overall demographic percentages of Hispanic-Americans (three percent).
- **Worked to Promote Michigan Hispanics.** Governor Granholt is working together with the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs (COSSA) to discuss the commission's five-year strategic plan. The commission has focused its efforts in the areas of economic development, education, leadership and political involvement, and the Legislature.
- **Signed Legislation Creating Cesar Chavez Day in Michigan.** Governor Granholt signed legislation that establishes March 31 as Cesar E. Chavez Day in Michigan. The day commemorates the late civil rights and labor leader who died in 1993. Cesar Chavez represents all people who work to improve their communities by fighting discrimination, working for economic equality, and ensuring safe and fair working conditions.

### *Invested in Education*

- **Proposed New \$4,000 Merit Scholarship.** The Governor continues to push for the New Merit Scholarship which will guarantee every student who successfully completes two years of college or technical training a \$4,000 scholarship – an amount roughly equal to two years of community college tuition.
- **Signed Early Intervention Programs Bills.** Governor Granholt signed legislation that allows school districts to develop and implement Early Intervention Programs for students in grades K-3. The programs will help identify educational and behavioral barriers students may face that would prevent them from succeeding in the classroom. The three-bill package allows school districts to create Early Intervention Programs that monitor student performance, identify individual challenges, and provide additional support services including reading, writing, math, visual memory, motor skills development, and behavior or language development.
- **Established Family Resource Centers in Michigan Schools.** Recognizing that services like health care, nutrition, and family support activities can have significant impact on educational achievement, the Granholt administration created Family Resource Centers throughout the state to serve students, parents, and teachers as a one-stop-shop to access local resources.

### *Invested in Health Care*

- **Made Prescription Drugs Affordable for the Uninsured.** Created the MiRx Card, a prescription drug discount card program to help lower prescription drug costs for some of Michigan's one million uninsured residents. More than 32,000 uninsured seniors and people from working families have signed up for the discount prescription drug card program since its inception.
- **Made Affordable Prescriptions and Health Care Available.** In just three years, the Granholm administration has extended affordable prescription drug coverage and health care coverage to more than 292,000 Michigan citizens.
- **Proposed Making Affordable Private Health Care Plans Available to 500,000 Michiganians.** Proposed a revolutionary new health care plan to provide access to affordable health insurance to more than 500,000 uninsured citizens. The Michigan First Health Care Plan will make affordable private health care plans available to small business employees, the self-employed, and the working poor without access to traditional employer-based health insurance or government-run programs. Cutting the state's uninsured population will create significant savings for businesses and citizens who subsidize uninsured health care.
- **Lowered Prescription Drug Costs through Bulk-buying Pool.** Introduced the nation's first bulk-buying pool for prescription drugs and received federal approval from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to ensure lower prescription drug costs for more than 1.3 million Michigan citizens.
- **Helped Businesses Offer Health Care Coverage to Employees.** Signed legislation giving tax cuts for businesses on their health care costs to help them remain competitive.
- **Appointed Michigan's First Surgeon General.** Appointed the state's first Surgeon General and launched a plan – *Prescription for a Healthier Michigan* – to help make Michigan citizens healthier.
- **Implemented Mental Health Care Law.** Taken the lead on implementing *Kevin's Law* which offers protection for individuals and for the community, and provides adequate and appropriate care to citizens who need mental health care assistance.
- **Worked to Establish Federally Qualified Health Centers.** As of October 2005, the Granholm administration has worked to obtain approval of 15 Federally Qualified Health Centers in communities throughout the state, including Saginaw, Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Detroit, Marquette, Muskegon, Jackson, Brimley, Westland, and Lincoln.
- **Strengthened Rural Health Care.** Signed legislation that will expand affordable health care opportunities to more Michigan citizens living in rural communities. The law will protect and expand the rural health care safety net by allowing more Michigan rural hospitals the opportunity to continue or begin receiving increased federal reimbursement for Medicare patients.
- **Declared Latino AIDS Awareness Day in Michigan.** Governor Granholm proclaimed October 15, 2005, as Latino AIDS Awareness Day in Michigan to help raise awareness and to help overcome the stigma and discrimination that often accompanies HIV/AIDS in the Latino community.

*Fighting to protect Michigan families from*

- **Lead Poisoning.** Governor Granholm signed legislation to help law enforcement officials go after rental property owners if a child becomes ill because they fail to address lead hazards. The Granholm administration is working to provide Lead Abatement Loans to homeowners through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Property Improvement Loan Program and the MDCH Lead and Healthy Homes Section.
- **Excessive Insurance Rates.** Governor Granholm supported a package consisting of 20 specific initiatives to strengthen regulations to bring fair, affordable, and accessible auto and homeowners' insurance to Michigan citizens. The package addresses three primary areas of concern: rates, consumer protection, and industry accountability.
- **Unscrupulous Lenders.** Signed into law regulations governing pay-day lenders to protect consumers from unscrupulous lenders.